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GENEALOGY COLLECTION







598

COWGER LINEAGES

by

Rolla E. Cowger

and

Oren E. Frazee

1940

598

Edited and Arranged by Oren E. Frazee
405 South Eleventh Street
LaCrosse, Wisconsin

R.R. 4, Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
May 16, 1938.

Prof. Oren E. Frazee,
405 South 11th St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

1791016

Dear Sir:

Some months ago a friend of mine noticed in The Handbook of American Genealogy that you wanted information of a David Cowger and a Henry Sutton. He made a note of your name and address intending to send to me but mislaid it and recently found it.

About three years ago I started compiling records of the Cowger family and have had wonderful success, tho have not yet established the relationship with all the different branches.

I have more or less information concerning several David Cowgers. If you will send me particulars concerning the David you wish I will be glad to send you what I have.

I was born and raised in Jasper County, Illinois. A George W. Sutton* and family lived in the same community. He had a large family, two boys and several girls. One of the boys and two daughters were my schoolmates. I have not been in touch with any of them for several years but believe I could locate them.

Would be glad to hear from you and to receive what information you have of any of the Cowgers.

Possibly we can be of service to each other.

Yours truly,

Signed: R. E. Cowger.

* See Sutton Records
by Oren E. Frazee

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R.R. 4, Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
June 8, 1938.

Oren E. Frazee,
405 South 11 St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Sir:-

Glad to hear from you and to know I will have your help in compiling records of the Cowger family.

In 1935 I had several letters from Mr. Fred Woods who is postmaster at Arlington, Rush County, Indiana and am sending you the information he sent me. I have not yet established the relationship of this line of Cowgers to my line.

I am writing to my sister who lives in Kansas for what she knows about the Jasper County Suttons. They may have come from Rush County, Indiana. She has a history of Jasper County, Illinois published in 1884 which may contain information.

My Great-grandfather, Michael (1) Cowger, was born in Germany, May 10, 1765. His wife's name was Catherine and it is believed they were married in Germany. They first settled in Virginia, then moved to Kentucky, and later to Highland County, Ohio, and finally to Rush County, Indiana where they both died. Their farm was located about half way between Arlington and Rushville. He donated a plot of land to be used as a building site for a church which was known as the Cowger Chapel. The Church and cemetery are now gone.

Their known children were George, John, Gustaff, Jonathan and Mary. My father said there were other children but he did not remember them.

My grandfather, Jonathan (2) Cowger, was born in Highland County, Ohio, in 1807. During Christmas week of 1830 he married Sarah Birt, daughter of William Birt, in Rush County, Indiana. They had fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls, and moved to Jasper County, Illinois about 1855, where they both died.

My father, Milton Shivers (3) Cowger, was born in Rush County, Indiana, in 1844. He came with his parents to Jasper County, Illinois where he was twice married. He and three of his brothers and several cousins served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He died in Florida in 1914.

My full name is Rolla Elbert (4) Cowger. I was born in Jasper County, Illinois, February 22, 1885, the father of eight children all living except one boy who died in infancy. My occupation is railroad telegrapher and station agent and have been employed by the Chicago and Eastern Illinois R.R. for thirty-three years. At present I am Telegrapher and Ticket Agent at Clinton, Indiana and live at the north edge of Terre Haute.

I will be grateful if you will send me all the information you have of all the Cowgers. Just make copies of your notes and I will arrange in proper order.

As soon as I hear from my sister I will write you what she knows of the Jasper County Suttons and will be glad to help you in any way I can.

Sincerely,

Signed: R.E. Cowger.

R.R. 4, Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
June 28, 1938.

Mr. Oren E. Frazee,
405 So. 11th. St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Cousin:-

Glad to hear from you and to receive the information you sent. Am enclosing the papers you marked to be returned. I have made copies for future reference.

About the names Cogar, Cogan, Coager, etc. It is possible, of course, but I very much doubt the connection. My mind is open on the question but I must have more definite evidence before I can accept it as a fact.

The COUGERS of New Jersey? There may be a connection there. I have often been called Couger by persons who were not familiar with the name Cowger. The W. J. Cowger letter states his ancestors were Germans and came to Virginia from the state of New Jersey. The earliest record you have of them is 1668. If there is a connection my great-grandfather, Michael, was very distantly related to them as he was born in Germany in 1765. It is known that he was born in Germany. My grandfather, Jonathan, could talk and understand the German language and my father had a slight knowledge of it. I have often heard him say a few words in German.

I visited my father in Feb. 1914 at Kissimmee, Florida. He was in poor health and I realized he might not be with us long. One afternoon while talking about our folks I had him tell me all he remembered about them and wrote it down. He died the following June. I neglected to arrange the notes in proper order, years passed, and somehow lost about half of the notes.

He told me his grandfather, Michael, learned the book-binder trade in Germany. I have a religious hymn book printed in the German language at Frankfort, Germany in 1774, which

Michael bound in sheep-skin. - This book has been handed down from Michael to his son Jonathan, to my father, to me. A German friend of mine living at Stoger, Ill. and who has a university education and came to this country since the World War, translated some writing on the fly leaf of this book. - It reads: "This book is the property of Georg Michael Gauger" followed by a short poem and ends "Born on the 10th day of May, 1765. - The above was written on the 28th day of September in the year 1781." My friend says the name Gauger is pronounced Goug-er in German and Cowger would be the English translation.

About a year before my father's death a young man came to his door in Florida selling books. - In their conversation Father learned he was a German who had finished his education and was working his way around the world. - Father showed him this hymn book and this young man said there was Gaugers living in the vicinity of his home in Germany.

I also believe there were two sets of David and Susan Cowgers living in Rush County, Indiana. My grandfather raised an Elizabeth Cowger who was an orphan. Her parents were James S. and Charlotte, and grandparents David & Susnah. So far I have not been able to learn the dates of birth of deaths of this David & Susnah, nor the maiden name of Susnah. Could this James S. have been the Stephen of your line, your grandmothers brother??

In 1846 several Cowger brothers and sisters who were children of my grandfathers elder brother Gustavus, left Rush County, Indiana, and settled in Iowa and Kansas. Their descendants have scattered all over the west. I have a record of most of them which I will send to you when completed.

I am writing to The Thomas Cowger of Monticello, Indiana. I have not been able to locate any of the descendants of my grandfathers brothers George or John. One of them, I have forgotten which, went to the California goldfields and was never heard from. The Monticello Cowgers may be descendants of the other brother.

Will be glad to hear from you again and to receive any additional information you get. Will keep you posted on any new data I dig up.

Have been a little slow in replying to your letter but have been rather busy the last two weeks. Will do better next time.

Kind regards
and best wishes,

Signed: R.E. Louger.

7
R.R. 4, Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
July 23, 1938.

Mr. Oren E. Frazee,
405 South 11th., St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Cousin;

Glad to hear from you again.

I received a very interesting letter from The Thomas Cowger of Monticello, Ind. He is a descendant from the George Cowger of Pendleton County, W. Va. who died about 1788.

Do you have access to lists of immigrants? If so a search for the name "Gauger" from Germany in the late 1700s might reveal something. The W. J. Cowger letter states "George and this brother and their sisters came from the state of New Jersey." If it was they who first came to this country they may have landed at New York.

An idea just came to me. I wonder if it would do any good to contact the German Consul at Chicago (I suppose there is one there)? He might be able to tell us how to go about tracing the name back to Germany.

Will be glad to hear from you any time and will keep you posted on any new information I turn up.

Yours,

Signed: R. E. Cowger

R.R. 4, Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
Aug. 27, 1938.

Oren E. Frazee,
405 S. 11th. St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Cousin:-

I am returning to you letter from Mrs. Mary K. Talbot with notice of booklet to be published by The Roger Dyer Family Association. I have made copies. Many thanks.

I have a son living at Barrington, Illinois. He is very much interested in the family history and has been a great help in many ways. I have asked him to go to the Newberry Library and look over the lists of immigrants on file there.

I wrote to The State Board of Health at Indianapolis for a copy of the death certificate of David Cowger and received reply that death records in the state office begin in 1900. I am writing to Mr. Fred Woods at Arlington asking him to ascertain how far back the Rush County births, marriages and deaths are recorded. Possibly I can arrange to go to Rush County later on this fall.

The German Consul at Cleveland, Ohio sent me names of two persons in Germany who specialize in family research work. I am writing to one of them but I suppose the cost will be more than I can pay.

Wife and I received an invitation to attend the Moore-Downey-Cowger reunion at Monticello but we could not arrange to attend at this time. Was greatly disappointed as am anxious to meet and get acquainted with the folks there. Will surely arrange to attend next year.

Will be glad to hear from you again, tho I may be a little slow in replying as I do not have a great deal of time to give to this work. Will keep you posted on anything new that I turn up.

Yours,

Signed: R. E. Cowger.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY
INDIANAPOLIS

Genealogy Librarian
Anna Poucher

April 12, 1937

Mr. R. E. Cowger
Crete, Illinois

Dear Sir,

We have used the index to such Rush county material as we have in the Genealogy Section of the Indiana State Library, and although it is possible that the name might be mentioned in some compilation that is not thoroughly indexed, we have found the name Cowger (spelled Cowgar in this case) only in the census record for 1850 in Rush county. These records are photostat copies of original records to be found in Washington, D.C. and give merely the name of the head of the family, the number of males and females between certain ages, and sometimes the number of the household engaged in agriculture.

We found under Rush county which is in volume 15 of the set on the 1850 census, the following:

Page 510-- Gustavus Cowgar	Males 8	Females 3
Page 534-- George Cowgar	" 12	" 1
Page 608-- Michael Cowgar	" 4	" 1
Page 608-- John Cowgar	" 4	" 5
Page 610-- David Cowgar	" 2	" 3

No names are given other than the head of the family and no other information is given, other than the approximate ages which we have not included.

The Public Library in Rushville, Indiana, might be able to direct you to some source of information or to some person who might be employed for the research- The Handbook of American Genealogy for 1937 gives the name of Mrs. Willard Amos, 520 North Perkins Street, Rushville, Indiana, as a professional genealogist.

The Genealogy Section of the Indiana State Library to which your request has been referred, does not go into the deep research through its correspondence but submits list of persons, not connected with the library, but acquainted with its methods, who may be employed for the more extensive research. We have, however, consulted many of our indices and always try to answer the definite requests especially if they pertain to Indiana connections. The D. A. R. Chapters in Indiana have furnished us with many county vital records but we have none for Rush county.

Very truly yours,
Anna Poucher
Librarian, Genealogy Section.

The Cowgar Family.

George Michael (1) Cowger

Sept 9, 1824, he deeded
67 acres of land to John
Boyd. (Highland Co., O. Record)

Born in Germany May 10, 1765. He was a book-binder by trade. Married Catherine Eye before they came to this country. It is believed they lived in the southern part of Germany. They first settled in Virginia, then moved to Kentucky and later to Highland County, Ohio, and finally, about 1824 to Rush County, Indiana. His known children were; Jonathan; John; Gustaff; Mary; and George. There were other children names unknown. He died in Rush County, Indiana, sometime after the year 1844, definite date unknown.

The name Cowger in the German language is spelled Gauger and pronounced Goug-er.

Children of George Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger.

Jonathan (2) Cowger

Dec. 30, 1830

Son of George Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger. Born in Highland, County, Ohio November 4, 1807. Came to Rush County, Indiana with his father in 1824, where, during the Christmas week of 1830, he married Sarah Birt, daughter of William Birt. He farmed for a time in Crawford and Marion Counties, Indiana, and in 1853 moved to Jasper County, Illinois. He died about 1887. Had fourteen children. Four of the sons served in the Civil War. His children were; John B; James McCreary; Mary Anne; Elizabeth; William Thomas; Jonathan Ben; A daughter who died in infancy; Milton Shivers; Marthy Jane; Sarah Indiana; Charlotte Esther; Phebe Ellen; Henry Harve and David Scott.

John (2) Cowger

Son of George Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger, lived at Bridgeport, Indiana. No other information.

Gustaff (2) Cowger

Son of George Michael Cowger and Catherine Eye Cowger, had a daughter who married David H. Birt. This daughter's name was Rachel. No other information

Mary (2) Cowger

Daughter of George Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger. Married a man named Shivers and lived at Champaign, Illinois. One of her sons was a railroad vorder and moved to Indiana. No other information.

George (2) Cowger

Was the oldest child of George Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger and was a cabinet-maker by trade. No other information.

Children of Jonathan(2) and Sarah Birt Cowger.

John E. (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger was born in Rush County, Indiana. He was reared a farmer and educated in Indiana. Came with his parents to Illinois, and on September 26, 1866, he married Nancy A. McDaniel, daughter of John and Margaret Freiks McDaniel. To this union were born four children; Mary A.; Jonathan Sherman; Ellen J.; and Ollie M. After his marriage he settled on his farm in section thirty-two in Jasper County, Illinois. Taught school in the winter of 1860, and in June 1861 enlisted in Company K, 21st. Illinois regiment. He fought at Frederickstown, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Dalton, Resaca and Altoona Pass. On account of night blindness and neuralgia from which he lost the sight of his left eye and almost lost his right eye, he was discharged in September 1864 and returned to his home. After his return he lived for a time at Newton, Jasper County, Illinois, where he died.

James McCreary (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger was born in Rush County, Indiana. He served during the Civil War in the 17th Indiana Mounted Infantry which was a part of Wilders Brigade. His first wife was Louisa Cloverdale. His second wife was related to his first wife. He died at Clinton, Iowa in 1911.

Mary Anne (3) Cowger

Daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger was born in Rush County, Indiana. Married Ben Fisher at Hanamaker, Marion County, Indiana. Died in 1928. No other information.

Elizabeth (3) Cowger

Daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger was born in Rush County, Indiana. Married K. Alexander McFarland. They lived for a time near Indianapolis, Indiana, but later moved to Nebraska. Mr. McFarland was a Baptist Minister. No other information.

William Thomas (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. Married America Ward. They moved to Decatur, Indiana during the Civil War where America died. About 1865 he married Sarah Ward, Americas sister. He died at Rose Hill, Illinois about 1900. No other information.

Jonathan Ben (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. He never married. Served with the 79th Indiana Infantry during the Civil War. After the war he made his home with the old folks until their death. He died at Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois, definite date unknown.

Hilton Shivers (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. Born in Rush County, Indiana, March 9th, 1844, was reared on his father's farm and educated in Indiana. He came with his father to Jasper County, Illinois, where he enlisted in Company K, 81st. Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Franklin, Nashville and all the other engagements of his regiment. He was honorably discharged February 26, 1864, but re-enlisted in the same company and was appointed Sergeant. He was again honorably discharged in January 1866. April 14, 1867 he married Martha J. McDaniel, who bore him three children; Charles Henry; Anna May; and Jonathan Edward. Martha J. Died October 9th, 1875.

October 14, 1877 he married Lenora Jane Stebbins, Daughter of Dennis and Jane P. Stebbins, and to this union were born six children; Milton Orpheus; Flora Irene Rolla Elbert; Marcia Isabell Lenora; John Orville and Alger Earle. He was elected Town Clerk in 1877 and on April 18, 1878 was appointed Postmaster at Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois. In 1879 he was appointed General Agent for the Peoria Decatur and Evansville Railroad and for the Adams and Pacific Express Company in 1880. He was a Master Mason and a member of the GAR. He owned his home in the village and a farm in the vicinity. About 1895 he was promoted to the agency at West Liberty, Illinois by the PD&EER Co. and moved his family to that point. About 1898 he resigned from the Railroad Company and secured position as salesman for the Singer Sewing Machine Company with headquarters at Norton, Illinois, moving his family there. About 1900 he resigned, moved his family back to his old home at Rose Hill, Illinois and conducted a grocery store. Two or three years later he was again appointed Postmaster. About 1909, on account of ill health, he resigned as Postmaster and retired from active business. He moved his family to Kissimmee, Florida the same year, where he died July 6, 1914. Buried in the Songer Cemetry near Rose Hill, Illinois. Lenora J. Cowger died February 15, 1929 at the home of her daughter, Marcia in Irving, Kansas, and was buried in the Songer Cemetry near Rose Hill, Illinois.

Martha Jane (3) Cowger

Daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. Married James A. Taylor, a physician. They made their home at Bement, Platta County, Illinois during the Civil War and later moved to Kansas where they both died. No other information.

Sarah Indiana (3) Cowger

Daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. First husband was Rube Cummins, a farmer, who was killed by lightning. Later married a Mr. Reisner and lived near Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois. No other information.

Charlotte Esther (3) Cowger

Daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger.
Died when about three years old.

Phebe Ellen (3) Cowger

Married Henry F. Brooks. They resided on
a farm near Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois.

Henry Harve (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger. Was
twice elected Township Clerk and served one term as
tax assessor of Crooked Creek Township, Jasper
County, Illinois. He was married to Alice Junior
January 19, 1873. They had four children, David
S; Cora Belle; Arthur Carl and Sarah Emma. He
worked at the Carpenter trade for several years.
in 1883, together with his father they established
a general store at Rose Hill, and in 1886, John
W. Fisher bought grandfather's interest, then in
1888 they established a branch store at Hidalgo, Jasper
County, Illinois. In 1893 the Rose Hill store was
consolidated with the Hidalgo store. In 1895 the
firm of Cowger and Fisher was dissolved and Henry
Harve's son, David S., became the junior member of
the firm of Cowger and Son. The store was sold in
1902 to Charles Briggs, after which he worked at
the carpenter trade as long as his health permitted.
Alice Junior Cowger died at Hidalgo, Illinois,
February 15, 1899. He was Postmaster at Hidalgo from
1891 to 1897. On March 17, 1902 he married Mrs.
Florence Tevis. He died December 26, 1918.

David Scott (3) Cowger

Son of Jonathan and Sarah Birt Cowger.
Married Lena White. Childrens names unknown.
He died in the year 1881. No other information.

Children of Milton (3) Shivers and
Martha Jane Cowger.

Anna May (4) Cowger

Born August 27, 1871. Married Elmer E. Sampson at West Liberty, Illinois, March 25, 1894. They lived at Goodland, Indiana and later at London Mills, Illinois. Their Children were Vera Mae; Charles Milton; and Lylis Audil Nova. She died about 1904.

Charles Henry (4) Cowger

Born October 4, 1869 and died December 3, 1975.

Jonathan Edward (4) Cowger

Born July 12, 1873.
Died September 4, 1881.

Children of Milton Shivers and
Lenora J. Cowger.

Milton Orpheus (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois November 15, 1878. Was a Master Mason and Knight Templar. Was a Railroad Telegrapher and Station Agent by occupation. Was employed, at different times, by the Peoria Decatur and Evansville Railroad, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad. He was relief man on the C&EI for some time and was Agent at Papineau, Illinois, and Ehrmanndale, Indiana, also Operator at the telegraph Office at Otter Creek Junction for some time. Was promoted to Chief Clerk to Superintendent Trenary of the Indiana Division at Brazil, Indiana on August 1, 1904. Married Miss Marie Moran at Brazil, Indiana about 1905. They had one child James M., born February 11, 1911. They resided at Brazil, Indiana. During the year 1912 he had a nervous breakdown from which he never entirely recovered. He died July 7, 1917 and was buried at Brazil, Indiana. His widow and son now reside in that City.

Flora Irene (4) Cowger

Born June 19, 1860. Died September 4, 1881.

Rolla Elbert (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois February 22, 1885. Attended school at Rose Hill and West Liberty, Illinois. Came to Elmhurst, Indiana in 1903 and lived with his brother Milton, who taught him telegraphy. At that time, Milton was station agent and telegraph operator at that point for the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railway. On August 1, 1904, Milton was promoted to Chief Clerk to the superintendent at Brazil, Indiana and the station at Elmhurst was turned over to Rolla Elbert. In 1905 he left the employ of the C&EI and secured employment with the Big Four, working at various station and telegraph offices until August 7, 1910 he again entered the employ of the C&EI. Was Agent at Rosedale, Indiana for twelve years, also worked at various other stations and telegraph offices, and is at present working at an interlocking and signal tower located just south of Crete, Illinois, making his home at Steger, Illinois. He married Mrs. Ella Ivy Thompson, daughter of Edward and Rachel Harvey, at Rockville, Indiana, November 20, 1907. His children are Glen (adopted son); Robert Blain; Paul Levene (deceased); Charles Milton; Wayne Eugene; Dorothy Florence; Lenora Margaret; Raymond Edward; and Harold John.

Marcia Isabell Lenora (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois October 11, 1886. Married Guy O. Ward, November 10, 1908. Mr. Ward is the son of Mr. & Mrs. John W. Ward of Rose Hill, Illinois. Mr. Ward attended school at Evansville, Indiana in 1906 and 1907 where he learned telegraphy. About 1908 he secured employment with the Missouri Pacific Railway, working as Station Agent and Telegrapher at Goffs, Kansas; Blue Rapids, Kansas and at Irving, Kansas where they now reside. Their children are Orville, born at Rose Hill, Illinois October 1, 1909; Richard E. born at Goffs, Kansas January 11, 1911; and Allen born at Irving, Kansas October 15, 1915.

John Orville (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois October 12, 1891. He went with the family to Florida where he finished school. Was a printer for newspapers at St. Cloud and Kissimmee, Florida. Served as a soldier in the World War, but did not participate in any of the battles as the war was over shortly after he arrived in France. Was married sometime after his return, but separated from his wife and is now living alone at Kissimmee, Florida. He has no children.

Alger Earle (4) Cowger

Born at West Liberty, Illinois May 6, 1896. Went with the family to Florida where he finished school. Was a printer for newspapers at Kissimmee and St. Cloud, Florida. Served as a wireless operator in the navy during the World War. He has one child, Mary Elizabeth, and now resides at Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania.

Children of Henry Harve (3) and
Alice Junior Cowger.

David S. Cowger (4)

Born near Rose Hill, Illinois November 2, 1873. Attended school at Plainfield and Rose Hill, Illinois. Assisted his father in store until 1895 when he became the junior member of the firm of Cowger and Son. Was married to Miss Luella Carr October 27, 1895. Was appointed Rural Route Carrier at Hildago postoffice June 16, 1904. Served until September 29, 1917, when he took up farming. Was appointed postmaster at Hildago April 1, 1922, which position he still holds. He has six children; Edwina Pearl; born August 7, 1896; Vera Mae born October 30, 1897; Neva Myrtle born March 23, 1899; Lawrence H. born February 13, 1901; Leslie LeRoy born November 14, 1902 and Charles Carr born March 22, 1910.

Cora Belle (4) Cowger

Born August 22, 1875 near Rose Hill, Illinois. Attended school at Plainfield and Rose Hill, Ill.

In 1893 she moved with her parents to Hildago, Illinois, where on December 25, 1893 she married John H. Brooks. They lived on a farm near Hildago where her husband died November 12, 1921. There were three children, Elsie born July 1, 1901; Pearl born January 19, 1903; and Millard born July 10, 1907. On December 26, 1923 she was married to Holland P. Hall and are now living on their farm near Rose Hill, Illinois.

Arthur Carl (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois May 11, 1882. Attended school at Rose Hill. Moved with his parents to Hildago, Illinois in 1893. In 1916 he enlisted in Company B Illinois National Guard and served on the Mexican border during the Villa uprising. Went with the Company as a part of the 130th Infantry overseas in the World War. Served twelve months overseas and was honorable discharged May 31, 1919. On April 4, 1923 he married Mrs. Inda Atersand now live at Hildago, Illinois. They have no children.

Sarah Emma (4) Cowger

Born at Rose Hill, Illinois March 23, 1890. Moved with her parents to Hildago, Illinois in 1893. Attended school at Hildago. Was married to Ezra E. Hays on December 25, 1906. They now live on a farm near Hildago. They have six children, Bernice born January 23, 1908; Delmas born June 5, 1909; Hellen born December 2, 1912; Fern born July 30, 1910; and Opal born November 2, 1914 and Dolphies born December 4, 1916.

The Cowger Family

From history of Cumberland, Jasper and Richland Counties, Illinois, published by F. A. Battey Co., of Chicago, Ill. in April 1924.

Jonathan Cowger, son of Michael and Catherine Eye Cowger, of Kentucky, was born in Highland County, Ohio November 4, 1807. About 1824 the family moved to Rush County, Ind, where in Christmas week of 1830 our subject married Sarah Birt, daughter of William Birt. He farmed for a time in Crawford and Marion counties, Indiana, then came to Illinois and in 1853 to Jasper County. He has twice been elected Highway Commissioner, and cast his first vote for Andrew Jackson. He had born to him fourteen children; John B; James M; Mary A; Elizabeth; William T; Jonathan B; an infant daughter deceased; Milton S; Martha J. (deceased); Phoebe Ellen; Henry H; and David S. (deceased).

Milton S. Cowger was born in Rush County, Indiana March 9, 1844, was reared on his fathers farm and educated in Marion County, Indiana until the family came to Jasper County, Illinois where he enlisted in Company K, 21st Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Franklin, Nashville and in all the other engagements of his regiment. February 26, 1864 he was discharged, but reenlisted in the same company and was appointed Sargent. He was honorably discharged in January 1866 and in April 1867 he married Martha J. McDaniel who bore him three children; Charles Henry (deceased); Anna M. and Jonathan E. (deceased). Mrs. Cowger died October 9, 1875.

Mr. Cowger then married Lenora J. Stebbins, daughter of Dennis and Jane P. Stebbins and to this union have been born two children; Milton O. and Flora J. (deceased).

Mr. Cowger was elected Town Clerk in 1877, and on April 18, 1878 was appointed Postmaster at Rose Hill, Illinois which position he still holds. In 1879 he was made General Agent for The Peoria and Decatur and Eastern Railroad and Agent for the Adams and Pacific Express Companies in 1880. He is a Master Mason, is a member of the G.A.R. owns his home in the village and a fine farm in the vicinity.

History of Cumberland, Jasper and Richland Counties, Illinois.

John B. Cowper, son of Jonathan and Sarah (Birt) Cowper was born in Rush County, Indiana and came with the family to Illinois. He was reared a farmer and educated in Indiana. September 28, 1855 he married Nancy A. McDaniel, Daughter of John and Margaret Frieks McDaniel. He has four living children born to this union. Mary A., Jonathan Sherman, Ellen J., and Ollie M. After his marriage he settled on his farm on Section thirty-two, taught school in the winter of 1860, and in June 1861 enlisted in Company K 21st. Illinois regiment. He fought at Frederickstown, Corinth, Ferrysville, Stone River and Altoona Pass. On account of night blindness and neuralgia from which he lost the sight of his left eye and almost lost his right eye he was discharged in September 1864 at Springfield, Illinois and returned to his home but is able to do very little work.

Note from the Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.

"Other references speak of Milton and Jonathan B. as being charter members of G. A. R. Post No. 152, Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois. Milton S. was first commander."

The Virginia-Missouri
Cowgers.

This information concerning the four brothers who settled in Pendleton County, West Virginia received from Rev. Jesse Dare Pope, Renick, W. Va.; J. Lee Cowger, Pocomoke City, Md; Mrs. Sarah Ann Adamson, Fame, W. Va.; and from a letter dated March 18, 1914 written by William Job Cowger, RR 2, Dayton, Va. This letter was found among the papers of my father Milton Shivers Cowger.

The information of the brothers Noah and Job and sisters Hannah E. and Amelia R. who were children of Mary and Elizabeth (Randall) Cowger, and their descendants received from William H. Cowger, 3917 Oak St., Kansas City, Mo.

In the late 1700s four Cowger brothers and one sister, John (1), Jacob (1), Michael (1), George (1), and Mary (1), lived in what is now Pendleton County, West Virginia. They were Germans or of German descent. It is not definitely known if they or their parents first came to this country. The information I now have tends to show that George located in Pendleton County about 1780, John about 1785, Jacob and Michael about 1789.

George (1) Cowger

Hawse (Haaz)

1760-65

Brother of John, Jacob, Michael and Mary. He married [^]Hannah Elizabeth Hawse, date unknown. They had two sons John and Henry. George died in early life in the year 1780. His widow married Jacob Trumbo.

*and dau.
Hannah*

Children of George (1) and Hannah Elizabeth (Hawse) Cowger

John (2) Cowger

Son of George and Hannah Elizabeth (Hawse) Cowger. He married Ruth Randall. They moved to Indiana about 1832. I have no other information.

Henry (2) Cowger

Son of George and Hannah Elizabeth (Hawse) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia May 15, 1781. Lived near Fort Seybert. He lived and died within twelve miles of where he was born. Married Elizabeth Randall (sister

of Ruth) in Hardy County, April 23, 1805. They had ten children, Abel; Jacob; George; Jesse; Noah; Job; Andrew; Hannah E; Anolia; and Asmath or Ascnath. Henry died in 1852. His wife, Elizabeth (Randall) was born October 3, 1784, date of her death unknown.

Children of Henry and Elizabeth
(Randall) Cowger.

Noah (3) Cowger

Fifth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Randall) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia October 17, 1816. He married Elizabeth Dice in Pendleton County. They had ten children, Martha J; Malinda Rebecca; William H; Mary E; Hannah E; George S; John W; Amelia S; Luch Ann; and James N.

The family moved from Pendleton County West Virginia to Fayette County, Ohio after the birth of their first child in August 1842 and the birth of their second child in June 1844. Between 1846 and 1848 they moved to Marion County, Ohio, and finally about 1868 they settled in Cass County, Missouri near the town of Archie in the southern part of the county.

Noah died of apoplexy June 11, 1877 and is buried in Grand River cemetery about ten miles southeast of Freeman in Cass County, Missouri.

His wife, Elizabeth (Dice), was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia, August 5, 1820, and died of paralysis in Cass County, Missouri March 12, 1895 and is buried in Grand River cemetery.

Job (3) Cowger

Sixth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Randall) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia, March 9, 1819. His wife's name and date of their marriage unknown. The family moved to Iowa soon after the Civil War. Their known children were Mattie; Jacob; Henry; and Dave. There were other children.

Hannah E. (3) Cowger

Eighth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Randall) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia January 19, 1824. It is believed her middle name was Esenia (or Senia), and that she married a Mr. Warnstaff and settled near Dodge City, Kansas about 1868. They had two known children Jacob and Henry.

C O P Y.

Dayton, Va., R. 2,
March 18, 1914.

Dear Distant Cousin;

Yours of March 13th received. Truly glad to hear from you. Hope we will be able to trace up something that will be of interest to us. My grandfather's name was Henry and was born on South Fork now Pendleton County, West Virginia May 13, 1781 and lived and died within twelve miles of where he was born. Married Elizabeth Randall in Hardy County. They raised nine children, six boys and three girls and they all married and raised families. Noah moved to Mo., died and left a family. Job moved to Iowa after the war, had one son in Confederate army now living in Mo., two in Iowa, and Job died at age near 84. My father died in 1898. Henry, my grandfather, had an older brother (next few words blurred, cannot make out) large family some twenty-five or thirty years before the war, have lost sight of them. My grandfather's father's name was George who had a brother and two or three sisters. Don't know his brothers name but he left there and went west of the Alleghany mountains and settled on Big Kanawha now West Virginia, lots of them there yet and they are scattered no telling where all. George and this brother and their two or three sisters came from the state of New Jersey and their parents or grandparents emigrated there from Germany and were through-bred Dutch. I had three brothers and 6 sisters, one Henry in California, one George lived in North Carolina but now in Pocahontas Co., W. Va. John in Highland County, Va.

Yes, 6 of us cousins were in the Confederate Army. One Emanuel was Stone Wall Jackson's Drum Major and died during the war with typhoid fever. The other five went through the war, but one died 3 years ago and one five years ago, both took a bullet each to their graves. One died a good many years ago. Two of us living, David in Mo. and myself.

I am 75 years old and was twice wounded. We fought until we starved and then surrendered. I was in Gettysburg in 1863 and to a Reunion in 1913, had a nice time, more to eat in 1913 and less to do than in 1863.

None of us ever rose very high in politics, some county and district officers. Good many school teachers, musicians etc. Nearly all geniuses, could make anything they took a notion to

make out of iron, wood, leather etc, all they wanted was tools and something to work on. Nearly all Methodists, southern since the war. I never heard my father say anything about a Jonathan or Michael.

Very truly,

W. J. Cowger

Will write a little more and will enclose my wife's and my picture. We raised two boys and one girl, Dice in Columbus, Ohio and Lee in Md, as you know, Anna single at home. She and I keeping house best we can since her mothers death last September 3 years ago. We live in the old Historic Valley of Virginia in Rockingham County. Here in the Valley is where Stone Wall Jackson did lots of his maneuvering and fighting and good many others such as Ashby, Mosby, McNeil, etc. etc., and is where Sheridan did his burning and plundering. I want to sell out and retire. I can't work much any more, have 148 acres land and good buildings, mostly hilly land but produces well, fine for fruit, 70 dollars per acre. We have had about six weeks pretty rough weather; lots of snow (next few words very dim). Would like so much to see some of you. Wife and I were in Illinois (next two lines very dim) were most of the time at Ridge Farm a town on Clover Leaf R.R. from Danville To Paris. We were at St. Louis at Worlds Fair 15 days, then to Iowa 4 weeks, then to R. F., thence to Gallipolis, Ohio, was (one little over 3 months. Will close. Kindest regards and best wishes. Write again.

W. J. Cowger

Note by R. E. Cowger-

This letter was found among the papers of my father, Milton Shivers Cowger, who died the following June.

R. E. Cowger,
R.R. 4, Ex. 58,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
6-26-38

Amelia R. (3) Cowger

Ninth child of Henry and Elizabeth (Randall) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia March 17, 1826. She was called Milly. She and her brother Noah and possibly another brother lived for a time in Marion County, Ohio, and later Amelia and Noah settled in Cass County, Missouri. Noah in the southern part and Amelia in the northern part near the town of Pleasant Hill.

She married Shobe Judy. It is believed they were married in West Virginia. They had one daughter Sonia or Esenia Elizabeth, who married John Clayton Van Hoy of Pleasant Hill.

Senia (or Esenia) Elizabeth and John Clayton Van Hoy had an only daughter, Kate, who married Ed Monroe of Pleasant Hill. Ed died several years ago and Kate about a year ago. They left two sons, Clayton and Cyrus, both are married and live at Mount Washington, a suburb of Kansas City, Missouri.

All of these folks except Clayton and Cyrus Monroe have passed on and are buried at Pleasant Hill, Missouri.

Children of Noah (3) and
Elizabeth (Dice)
Cowger.

Martha J. (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Pendleton County, West Virginia August 14, 1842. In 1870 she married Jacob Beckley in Agosta, Marion County, Ohio. They had one known son, William, who was born about 1880. She died of apoplexy July 21, 1900 and is buried at Agosta, Ohio.

Malinda Rebecca (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Fayette County, Ohio June 7, 1844. She married Erastus Pope in Marion County, Ohio, and later moved to Avoca, Pottawattamie County, Iowa. They had six children, Lizzie; William; Minnie; Cora; Simon; and Pleasant.

Some years after Mr. Popes death she married a Mr. True of Avoca, Iowa, and died of paralysis August 10, 1916, and is buried at Avoca, Iowa.

William H. (4) Cowger

Son of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Fayette County, Ohio April 6, 1846, and died of pneumonia July 3, 1875, in Cass County, Missouri. He is buried in Grand River Cemetery. He never married.

Mary E. (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Marion County, Ohio February 28, 1848. She married Mr. Arthur Shidler. They had several children.

Hannah E. (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Marion County, Ohio March 4, 1850, and died December 20, 1926. She married a Mr. Sinclair and they had several children.

George S. (4) Cowger

Son of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Marion County, Ohio July 25, 1852. His parents left Ohio when he was about sixteen years old and settled in Cass County, Missouri. He married Hester J. Dunn in Freeman, Cass County, Missouri October 23, 1879. They had four children, William Henry; Loda May; Kate Moore; and Carrie Alena. He died of paralysis in Kansas City, Missouri and is buried in Freeman, Cass County, Missouri.

John W. (4) Cowger

Son of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Ohio August 14, 1854, and died May 26, 1880.

Amelia S. (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Ohio December 6, 1856. She married Nicholas Wetterhold. They had three children, Frank who lived only two months; Lloyd Leslie who was born June 15, 1887; and Emmett, who was born in Cass County, Missouri November 14, 1895.

Lloyd Leslie Wetterhold married Inger Hoskinson in April 1930 and lives twelve miles west of Kansas City in Kansas. They have no children.

Emmett was harrowing and his team ran away and killed him July 29, 1909.

Lucy Ann (4) Cowger

Daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Ohio August 25, 1859. She married William Bridgewater in Cass County, Missouri. They had one daughter, Gussie, who married James Akers.

Lucy Ann is the only surviving member of this generation and lives with her daughter, Gussie Akers, at Harrisonville, Cass County, Missouri, which is just a few miles from where her parents settled.

James H. (4) Cowger

Son of Noah and Elizabeth (Dice) Cowger was born in Ohio October 14, 1861 and died in Eldorado Springs, Missouri December 12, 1904. He married Julia Hammondtree. There were two children, both married, Ida lives in Lee Summit, Mo., and Luther is professor in the schools at Independence, Jackson County, Mo.

Children of Job (3) Cowger,
sixth son of Henry and
Elizabeth (Randall)
Cowger.

Mattie (4) Cowger

Daughter of Job Cowger. She married a Mr. Knaus and settled in Nebraska many years ago.

Jacob (4) Cowger

Son of Job Cowger lived in Iowa.

Henry (4) Cowger

Son of Job Cowger lived the last years of his life at Warrensburg, Johnson County, Missouri.

Dave (4) Cowger

Son of Job Cowger. When a young man he settled near Peculiar, in Cass County Missouri. He and his wife passed on several years ago. They left two sons, Earnest and Earl. Earnest lives near Peculiar, Mo., and Earl at Superior in Nuckolls County, Nebraska.

Children of George S. (4) and Hester J. (Dunn) Cowger.

William H. (5) Cowger

Son of George S. and Hester J. (Dunn) Cowger was born near Freeman, Cass County, Missouri on December 21, 1890. He was named after his uncle, William H. He married Ella Roberts in Santa Rosa, California, August 16, 1908. They have no children. He is a plumber by trade and lives at 3217, Oak Street, Kansas City, Mo.

Loda May (5) Cowger

Daughter of George S. and Hester J. (Dunn) Cowger was born near Freeman, Cass County, Missouri Jan. 23, 1884. She married Henry Spuhler in Kansas City, Missouri June 9, 1908. They have five children, all living, Horace; Ethel; Billy; Berenice; and Edwin. Horace and Ethel are married. Horace has a boy two years old.

Loda May and Henry Spuhler now live at Fort Worth, Texas.

Kate M. (5) Cowger

Daughter of George S. and Hester J. (Dunn) Cowger was born near Pleasant Hill, Missouri November 19, 1888. She married R. B. Horness in Kansas City, Missouri October 17, 1910, where they still live. They have no children.

Carrie A. (5) Cowger

Daughter of George S. and Hester J. (Dann) Cowger was born near Pleasant Hill, Missouri August 17, 1892. She married Earnest J. Gurngerich in Kansas City, Mo., October 23, 1915, and died in Summit, N. J., April 16, 1929. There were no Children.

This information compiled
by Rolla Elbert Cowger,
June 3, 1938, and will be
revised as additional
information is received.

R. E. Cowger,
Box 321,
Crote, Ill.

Terre Haute, Ind.,
September 23, 1933.

Mr. Oren E. Frazee,
405 S. 11th St.,
La Crosse, Wis.

Dear Cousin;

My son, Charles M. Cowger of Barrington, Ill., visited the Newberry Library at Chicago couple weeks ago. He found a copy of Mortons History of Pendleton County, West Virginia and made copy of all references to the Cowgers. I am sending you a carbon copy. However Mr. Pope wrote me that much of the information in this history is not correct.

It seems the lists of immigrants are listed in books according to states in which they first settled. Virginia, about this time, shows only 90 names and no Cowgers or Gaugers. He will go into this more thoroughly on his next trip there.

In my previous correspondence with Mr. Woods he stated William Cowger told him his fathers name was Henry, grandfathers James and great-grandfather Gustavus. It now seems that he thinks his great-grandfather was Michael instead of Gustavus. The information that I have received from other sources show that Gustavus was the father of James and Michael father of Gustavus. I wrote to William twice about two years ago but received no reply. I have written to Mr. Woods again.

About the split relationship. It is possible that Michael was married twice but my father never mentioned it and I believe he would have known it.

I have been trying to get to Rush County for the past two years. Had planned to go in 1936 when my wife was suddenly taken ill, and later on my daughter. Had made arrangements to go the latter

part of August last year and received word that my only sister who lives in Kansas was in hospital so we went there instead. This year there is prospects of a railroad strike and I do not feel like taking a vacation until it is settled. Possibly I can arrange to go later on this fall. If not would consider sharing the expenses of a genealogist.

I have reasons to believe that Michael and the other early Cowgers belonged to the German Luthern church and have been told this church always kept birth, marriage and death records. Do not know if there is a church in Rush County now or not but am trying to learn. It may be the answer to our problems.

I have learned the Fairbanks Library here in Terre Haute have recently opened a genealogy department. Will see what they have.

Be glad to hear from you at any time.

Yours,

Signed: R.E. Cowger

COWGER

Taken from "A History of Pendleton County West Virginia" by "Morton" published April 1910.

CHAPTER III

GIVEN NAMES AND SURNAMES

ENGLISH	SCOTCH	GERMAN	IRISH
NONE	COWGER	NO COWGER OR GAUGER	NONE

CHAPTER IV

This list of families still represented in the county and is not extenct. By pioneers we mean families that came not later than about 1815. By sub-pioneers we mean families that came not later than the close of 1861. Followed an index to names of pioneers and sub-pioneers. The name Cowger was included in this list.

CHAPTER V

ORIGIN ARRIVAL AND LOCATION OF THE PIONEERS

Cowger-Scotch Irish? Rockingham? 1780* Near Ft. Seybert.

CHAPTER VI

SKETCHES

This family is perhaps descended from Michael Cowger who located 900 acres on the Shenandoah River in 1753. The members of the first family in Pendleton County appear to be:

1. George (Hannah Hawes) d 1783.
2. John (Mary E. Propst)-m before 1785.
3. Jacob-SF., 1782
4. Michael (Catharine-----).
5. Mary (Abraham Pitsenbarger)-m 1795.

Line of George

1. Hannah.
2. Henry (Elizabeth_____-)-b May 13, 1761 d 1845*, Eye place below Fort Seybert.
3. John (Ruth Heffner)-moved from Sweedland to o in 1835*
Br of Henry
1. Abel (Phoebe Dice)-b Oct. 31, 1806.
2. Jacob (Sarah Dice)-b Feb. 9, 1809.
3. George (Elizabeth Jolly)-b 1812 d 1891.
4. Jessie (Polly A. Keister)-b June 13, 1814.
5. Noah (Elizabeth Dice)-o
6. Job (Aug.)- W
7. Andrew.
8. Hannah E. (Ermanuel Trumbo).
9. Amelia R. (Solomon R. Judy).
10. Asenath (Noah Vanstaff).
11. Sarah O (O).
12. Rebecca (Michael Bodkin).
13. Elizabeth (O).
14. Amelia S. (Isaac Miller)-b 1838 W.

Br of Abel

1. Sarah O. (O)*
2. Rebecca (Michael Bodkin)
3. Elizabeth (O)*
4. Amelia S. (Isaac Miller)b-1838-w.
(Note CMC) Note the last four names are similar to the
(Br of Henry). This was not mistake in copying. CMC.

Br of Jacob

1. William (Mary A. Conrad)-b 1834.
2. Eve E. (Lewis Wagener).
3. Catharine M. (William C. Miller).
4. Noah M. (Sarah C. Trumbo, Sarah A. Trumbo).
5. Emmanuel.
6. John W--d.
7. Henry T. (Laura A. Pope) (Note CMC-could this be link with
Rev Pope you now correspond with?)
8. Mary J. (dy).

Ch of William

1. Catharine (Samuel Coffman).
2. Howard-dy.
3. George.
4. Jacob-SV

Ch of Noah M.

1. James (RKM).
2. Floyd (Elizabeth Davis, Mardy)-d-lc.By 2nd m.
3. William.
4. Mary E.
5. Edith M.
6. Girl (DY).
- 7.

Ch of Henry T.

1. Ella E.
2. Preston.
3. L. Myrtle.

Br of George

1. Henry-b 1836.
2. Elijah (Susan R. Schlosser, hdy)-b 1837
3. Noah-d.
4. Manasseh (Hdy)*
5. George S. (Hdy)*
6. Pleasant S. (Rlm)*
7. Mary E. (Rlm)*-d.

Ch of Elijah

1. Noah M. (Ira Pope)
2. Grace K.

Br of Jessie

1. William J. (Josephine Dice) b 1839-RKM-5c.
2. George (Rebecca Wealthy)-Poca
3. John (Mary Heffner).
4. Henry (-----Harper)-Cal.
5. Susan (George S. Pope)
6. Dorothy (George Hisey).
7. Sarah A. (James L Adamson).
8. Martha (William Bedkin)-Ia.
9. Louisa (Hdy - d).
10. Margaret (Von Dasher)-Hardy.
11. Asenath (P---S. Cowger) rkm.
12. Eliza (George Adamson).

The present Cowgers are mainly just above and below
Fort Seybert. There was once a John in Thorn Valley.

Roster of men in Confederate Service

(Where place of Residence is given the person was
living March 1, 1910.)

COWGER

Elijah-Co I Reg 62	Fort Seybert W. Va.
Emmanuel D. Drum Major Co 3 Reg 25	Killed at Antietam.
Henry-Co I Reg 62	
Noah-Co I Reg 62	
Mannassas-Co I Reg 62	Peru, W. Va.
William J.-Co K Reg 62	Rushville, Va.

Surveys and Patents Prior to 1788.

1780

95 Acres - Grantee Jno Cowger -B-T- Sold to Henry Huffman 1793.

1782

- - Cowger, Jacob Broad Run S. F.---Patent, 1787-(entered 1771).

Muster Rolls of Pendleton Co Militia Sept. 6, 1794
Captain William Patten's Co.

Cowger, Michael

Captain Hoover's Co

Cowger, John

Charles M. Cowger Sr.
At Newberry Library
Chicago, Illinois

August 31, 1938

To
C. M. Cowger,
123 Waverly Road,
Barrington, Ill.

1791016

Notes and comments by R. E. Cowger
to be used in your work at The
Newberry Library at Chicago, Ill.

Mortons History of Pendleton County, West Virginia.

What is now Pendleton County, West Virginia was before the state was divided a part of Augusta County, Virginia. If you find a history of Augusta County, Virginia you might see if Cowgers or Gaugers are mentioned.

The Pope brothers using this history as a basis for their research work have found much of the information in this history is not correct.

In chapter VI the George Cowger who married Hannah Hawes (or Haaz) was the ancestor of the Cowgers now living in Va., W. Va., and at Monticello, Ind., but he died in 1788 not 1783.

The John, Jacob, Michael, and the Michael who located 900 acres in the Shenandoah Valley in 1753 seem to be badly mixed with the names Coger, Cogar, Cougar, Cougher and Kogar. The Pope brothers seem to think the Cowgers are connected in some way with the above names, but I doubt it very much. So far, they have not been able to trace their line farther back than this George nor to connect him with these other names. They are now working on the theory that their George and our Michael were brothers and emigrated from Germany. These two seem to be the only lines of Cowgers that we have absolute knowledge of.

In chapter five which shows the name Cowger to be of Scotch-Irish descent.-----The name Hawes may be of Scotch-Irish, but the name Cowger is, of course,

arrest

1862

1862

1862

1862

1862

1862

1862

1862

1862

German. See W. J. Cowger letter copy enclosed.

Note the W. J. Cowger letter reads in part;

"My grandfather's father's name was George who had a brother and two or three sisters. Don't know his brother's name but he left there and went west of the Alleghany mountains and settled on Big Kenarha now West Va. George and this brother and their two or three sisters came from the state of New Jersey."

I have a letter from J. L. Cowger, Son of W. J. Cowger, Pocomoke City, Md. dated June 23, 1935 reads in part;

"The best I can remember that father said there were three brothers landed here from Germany I think in New Jersey, and there seperated, one going to Ohio, one in the eastern part of West Va. where my grandfather lived, who might have been named George, and another in the western part of W. Va."

In your search of immigrants you might look for the names Gauger, Cowger, Cogger, etc. who landed in New Jersey or New York.

The first record the Pope brothers have of their George is that he was at a sale and bought a horse in 1776.

As far as I know George and Michael were farmers, altho father said Michael learned the book-binder trade in Germany. Mrs. Priscilla Houdyshell who is 86 years old and lives at Glendale, Calif, says her father, Jonathan D. Cowger, was born in Ohio and was raised by his grandparents and that when a boy they lived a short time at Cincinnati, Ohio. Jonathan D. was a son of Gustavus who was my grandfather's older brother. It is possible that Michael worked at the book-binder trade at Cincinnati after leaving Ohio on his way to Indiana.----In those days the book-binder trade was a profession. Now all that is done by machines. Install a machine-lay off workers-reduce the purchasing power-and wonder what is wrong with our economic system. Society as a whole should receive the benefits of the machine, not be made to suffer on account of them.-- --Almost every trade and profession is represented in the succeeding generations, school teachers, ministers, physicians, cabinet-makers, mill-wrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc. etc.

I have learned a history of Rush County, Indiana mentions a Michael Cowger and a Gustavus Cowger. If you find this history there please make copy of all reference to Cowgers, Birts, Shivers, McCrearys, Sutton, and Frazee. My grandmother was a Birt. Fathers middle name was Shivers and was named from his Aunt Mary's husband. The McCrearys are tied up with the Cowgers in some way. Mr. Frazee's grandmother's father was a David Cowger who married a Susannah Sutton, daughter of Awariah Sutton.

Grandfather had a brother John who lived for a time at Bridgeport, Indiana which is in Marion County. No Cowgers are now living in the vicinity of Bridgeport and I have not been able to find further trace of him. If you find a history of Marion County Indiana see what you can find as he might have been an early pioneer in that county.

A James D. Cowger lives at 7027 North Damen Ave., Chicago. His grandfather, James Owen Cowger, was born in Nebraska in 1859. The father of James Owen was an early pioneer in Nebraska. I have not yet learned his name nor in what part of Nebraska they lived. This James D. is 24 years old, married and is a steel worker. His mother, Jennie Bridge Cowger is a widow and, I believe, lives with her son at the above address, as she replied to my letter addressed to James D. at this address. I wrote to her again last April but have received no reply. If you find any histories of counties in Nebraska you might look thru them and see if any Cowgers are listed.

I remember the GAR Post at Rose Hill had a set of books which listed the names of all the Union soldiers who fought in the Civil War. My father and three of his brothers and several first and second cousins fought in this war. Some enlisted in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and possibly some other state. I have the war record of some but not all. See if this list is on file there. They may have lists of other wars also.

Referring back to the history of Pendleton County, W. Va.

I notice in chapter VI- Line of George 2. Henry (Elizabeth)
B May 13, 1781, D 1845*. EYE place below Fort Seybert.
Also that you noticed the name EYE in several places.

It is known that our Michael's wives name was Catherine.
One source gives her full name as Catherine Eye Cowger.
It is not known if EYE was just her middle name or her
maiden name. I suggest that you copy all reference to
the name Eye in this history as it might tie up with
information we might receive later.

Suggestions.

You might see if Gaugers or Cowgers are mentioned in
history of Augusta County Va.

Copy all reference to name "EYE" in history of Pendleton
County, W. Va.

Search lists of immigrants who landed in New Jersey or
New York. Names Gauger, Cowger, Cogar, etc.

Search history of Rush County, Indiana for names Cowger,
Gauger, Birts, Shivers, McCrearys, Sutton and Frazee.

Look for Cowgers in Nebraska.

History of Marion County, Indiana for John Cowger.

Lists of soldiers.

R. E. Cowger,
R.R. 4, Bx. 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
Sept. 11, 1933.

DAVID CONGER

1834/5

David Conger was born about 1803 and died in 1862 age 59 years and 8 months. This latter date is arrived at by the fact that Mary Ellen Conger, a daughter, was born in 1811 and she was but seven years old when her father (David Conger) died. He married, December 1, 1828, near Arlington, Indiana west of Rushville, Susanna Sutton, born about 1805 and died 1875, age 69 years, three months and twenty days. Both she and her husband are buried in Cemetery east of Arlington, Rush county, Indiana. She was the daughter of Amariah Sutton, b. about 1782 and died 1864, and his wife Nancy.....Sutton, b. about 1787, both residents in the latter part of their lives in Rush county, Indiana. Their children are indicated below but there seems to be a question about Stephen, one record is that he was a son of Isaiah Conger.

Isaiah Conger, b.
?Stephen Conger, b.
Deliah Conger, b.
Henry Conger, b.----- (M. Isabelle Hughes, March 26, 1863)?
Phoebe Conger, b.
Mary Ellen Conger, b. October 3, 1834.
Anna Hester Conger, b.
Elizabeth Conger, b.
James Conger, b.

ISAIAH CONGER

Isaiah Conger, son of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger was born 182- and married (1) October 7, 1847, Mary Jane Reddin and had:

Mahala Conger, m.....Edwards, residence, Arlington, Indiana.
Susan Conger, m.....Webb, residence, Rushville, Indiana.

married (2) Waldenott Pope and had:

William D. Conger, b. Jan. 1852; died August 12, 1898 (killed by passing automobile in front of his home near Rushville, Indiana). Ch.

Mary Conger m. Elsworth Worland
William Conger
Mary Conger m.....McDaniell and had:

Leon McDaniell

Stephen Conger

married (3) July 17, 1864, Mary Ellen Hartwick, and had:

John Conger, b. 1865; m.....; res. Rushville, Indiana.
Anna Conger m.....George; res. 817 1/2 Chelsea Rd., Indpls., Ind.
James, Della, Pearl, Janie, and Cordia are believed also to be children of the third marriage of Isaiah Conger.

DELIAH CONGER

Daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, b.....and died at Arlington, Indiana; m. Joseph Woods and had eleven children:

Floyd Woods, b. 1875; m. Pearl McDaniel in 1901 and had two children.

Mildred, married and has three children.

Jesse, married and lives in Florida. No children.

Other children of Joseph Woods and Deliah (Conger) Woods:

Amanda

Lacy

Adellno

Eliza

Olive

Mary

Clon

Susan

John R.

Edward and Floyd, twins

Sarah

HENRY CONGER

Son of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, b..... Left Rushville, Indiana early in life and was last reported in Illinois and had a family.

ANNA CONGER

Daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, m. Cliver Lines. No children.

ELIZABETH CONGER

Daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, b.....m. Raper Maggert. There were two children.

JAMES CONGER

Son of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, b..... No record.*

STEPHEN CONGER

There is a question whether he is a son of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger.

PHOEBE CONGER

Daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Conger, b.....m. Stephen Beach (Res. Rushville and Marion, Indiana) and had:

Boy, killed when young.

William Martin Beach..... no children.

ok

405 South Eleventh St
LaCrosse, Wisconsin
March 15, 1940

To Public Library
Rushville, Indiana

Dear Madam, The material assembled will prove of some value to the records at your Library, I think, and you are welcome to them.

If you can in any way have some one at Rushville answer the the following two queries for me, I should appreciate it very much:

Who were the parents of Amariah Sutton and his wife. Nancy.....?
See p. 39 of this Mms.
Who were the parents of David ~~Sutton~~ Cowger and his wife Susanna Sutton-Cowger? *See p. 39 of this Mms.*

Please acknowledge receipt of the manuscript enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Oren E. Frazee
Oren E. Frazee

Nancy Beach, married John Peterson; 5 children, Marion, Ind.
 Sarah Beach, m. Harrison Stephens, 3 children.
 Susan Beach, m. John Burrichter, 7 children.
 Mary Beach, m. Robert Sharon, 4 children.

MARY ELLEN CORGER

Daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Corger, b. Oct. 9, 1834;
 d. Feb. 1, 1916 (Cubash, Indiana), m. Jan. 13, 1858, James William
 Prazee and had:

Clarissa Jane Prazee, m. Joseph Tegtmeyer.
 John Charles Fremont Prazee, b. 1857; m. Susannah Arnold, daughter
 of Andrew Arnold.
 Ella Prazee, m. (1) Wiley Tyner; m. (2) Johnson.

(For a fuller account of the James William Prazee Family see
 Doniphan-Prazee-Hamilton Lineages by Frances Prazee Hamilton).

* Rush county, Indiana records show that one James Corger married:

1. Jane Birt Aug. 18, 1839.
2. Susan Garver Oct. 1, 1842.
3. Charlotte A. Melton Aug. 27, 1851.

But no definite basis for determining whether these connections
 are right.

MARY ELLEN COOPER

Mary Ellen Cooper was born October 3, 1834/5 in Rush county, (east of Rushville) Indiana and was the daughter of David and Susanna (Sutton) Cooper. She was one of several children and the following list seems as nearly correct as records show at Rushville, Indiana:

Isaiah Cooper, b.
 ?Stephen Cooper, b.
 Deliah Cooper, b.
 Henry Cooper, b.
 Phoebe Cooper, b.
 Mary Ellen Cooper, b.
 Anna Hester Cooper, b.
 Elizabeth Cooper, b.
 James Cooper, b.

Mary Ellen Cooper married Jan. 13, 1853, James William Frazee (1831-1917) and had three children: Clarissa Jane, John Charles, and Ella. About 1867, James William Frazee and his wife removed to Wabash county, Indiana, near Treaty Station. She died Feb. 1, 1913, and she and her husband are buried in the Matlock Cemetery, one mile south of Wabash City.

Obituary Notice

Mary Ellen Cooper, daughter of David (1803-1840) and Susannah (Sutton) Cooper, was born Oct. 3, 1834 and departed this life February 1, 1913, aged 78 years, three months and twenty-four days. She was born and reared in Rush county, west of Rushville. Her father died when she was seven years old, and she then lived with her grandparents until she was united in marriage to James William Frazee, Jan. 13, 1853. To this union were born three children, Clara Teghtmeyer, of Princeton, Kansas, John of Peru, Indiana, and Ella Tynor of near Wabash. Ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren with a host of neighbors and friends are left to mourn her departure.

She was reared a Baptist, but later united with the Christian church at Flat Rock, Rushville. She was the last to depart this life of a family of nine children, five sisters, and four brothers. In the year 1867, they came to Wabash county and settled on a farm which is now Treaty. She was very patient in her last suffering and said to her husband and children who all were at her bedside: "Do not grieve for me, you have done all you can. I am ready to go." Among her last words were: "Oh, Jesus, take me home."

Census Report - 1940 - For Rush county, Indiana

Corgers - Heads of Families

Rushville Township

John Corgier, Jr.

1 male 10 - 30 years
 1 female 30 - 50 years
 1 female - under 5 years

David Corgier

3 males - one 40 - 50 years
 3 females - one 30 - 40 years.

Gustavus Corgier

3 males - one 50 - 60 years
 4 females one 50 - 60 years

Jonathan Corgier

4 males - one 30 - 40 years
 4 females one 40 - 50 years

Gustavus Corgier, Sr.

1 male 70 - 80 years
 1 female 60 - 70

Posey Township

John Corgier

3 males - one 40 - 50 years
 3 females - one 30 - 40 years.

George Corgier

2 males - one 30 - 40 years
 2 females - one 40 - 50 years

Jonathan Corgier

3 males - one 30 - 40 years.
 1 female - one 30 - 40 years

James Corgier

1 male - 50 - 60 years
 1 female - 30 - 40 years

No other Townships in the county gave any returns for Corgier names
 in the 1940 Census as furnished from Washington, D. C.

Oren E. Frazee
 405 So. 11th St.
 La Crosse, Wisconsin

Early New Jersey Cougers in Woodbridge Vicinity

A Rev. John Couger, according to tradition, emigrated to Woodbridge in 1684. His wife's name is given as Mary..... No further report.

From Dally's History and from Monette, the following records are given:

John and Mary Couger had:

Sarah, b. Jan.....1668

Joanna, b. Aug.....1670

John, b. May. 24....1674

Presumably the first set of children

Ledial, b. Jan. 1..1679

Jonathan, b. Mar. 19, 1683

Abigail, b. May....1690

John and Sarah Couger had:

Joseph, b. May 17, 1698

Job, b. June 6, 1694

Presumably the second set of children

Rachel, b. May 12, 1696

Lydia, b. April 24, 1698

Gershom and Ann Couger had:

Phoebe, b. Sept. 24, 1708

David, b. March 18, 1707/8

Gershom, b. April 6, 1711

Hannah Couger m. Jan. 10, 1637/8, Joseph Fitz Randolph.

Notes on Cogger Family

.....
by George E. Pope

1753---Jacob Cogger received a grant of 960 acres of land located in what is now Rockingham County Va., then Augusta County, on the Shenandoah River. (Augusta County records)

1755---Adam Miller gave bond as guardian of Michael Cogger, orphan of Nicholas Cogger. Augusta Co., Va.

1762---Michael Cogger married Mary.....

176---Michael Cogger in Augusta Co., Va.

1762---Jacob Cogger, referred to above, then living in Halifax Co., Va. sold to Michael Cogger part of the above tract.

1763---Michael Cogger (Now spelled Cowger) sold this land. He seems to have begun his march westward at this time.

1764---Jacob Cogger, listed in the Census of Rockingham Co., Va.

1766---He with Stephen Owie gave bond for the marriage of his son, Michael Cowger to Catherine Owie.

1766---Jacob Cowger, (Supposed to be the son of Michael Cogger, Sr.) was married to Catherine Harpole.

1777-8-Nicholas Cogger and John Cogger were living in Henry Co., Va.

1780---John Cogger, (Supposed to be the son of Michael, Sr.) was granted a tract of land in Augusta County, Va. near Crabbottom. His wife's name was Elizabeth.....
He had a son, John, who first married Polly Foyers and second Magdalena.....
They both sold their lands in Pendleton County, V. Va. and moved away about 1811-12.

There was an Elizabeth Cogger who married Henry Miller about 1780-80?

George Cogger was born about 1781-82? He married Hannah Haaz about 1780-85?

Michael Sr., John Sr., Elizabeth, and George seem to have been children of the same family though I have nothing to verify it except a reference to the Pendleton County history which I know of myself is not very reliable as to family relations.

This George Cowger was my great, great grandfather. He married Hannah Haaz as above stated. They had three children, John, Henry, and Hannah.

Hannah married Nicolas Shaver in 1789 and moved to Ohio.

Henry married Elisabeth Randall in 1905 and lived and died in Pendleton County near Fort Seybert. (My own old home.)

John married Ruth Randall in 1907 and went to Indiana about 1934. (That is the date of the deed he made when he sold his land to his brother, Henry.)

Elisabeth and Ruth Randall were sisters. Daughters of Jacob Randall of Hardy County, W. Va. and he was the son of Abel Randall.

White Post, Va.,
August 6, 1936.

Mr. Oren E. Frazee,
La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Dear Mr. Frazee:-

Rec'd your letter of July 19th. Since writing you last I have been able to get but little data as to the Coggers. I found in a list of immigrants that one Jacob Coger came to America from Germany in 1788 and one Peter Coger came in 1786. The list did not mention if they were married or not. I wrote to the Clerk of Jessamine County Ky. and got copies of both the wills of Michael Coger and Mary Coger. Both wills are recorded in the Clerk's office at Nicholasville, the county seat of Jessamine County. I also got the abstracts of the deeds. From the wills and deeds together I got the following information:

Michael Coger and wife Mary had three children.

1-Elizabeth Coger, m. Mathias Anderson.

1-James Anderson.

2-Mary Coger, m. Elijah Cartmill.

3-James Coger, m. Elizabeth Turk 1797. (Augusta Co. Va. Record)

1-Thomas Turk Coger, m. Ruth-----.

1-Michael F. Coger.

2-Thomas F. Coger.

3-Amanda F. Coger.

4-John S. Coger.

5-Mary C. Coger.

6-Jesse E. Coger.

2-Michael Coger.

3-William G. Coger.

The older Michael Coger lived in Rockingham County formerly Augusta Va. and sold out and went west in 1793. The one deed to him in Ky. was dated 1800. He owned two other tracts

/.

of land, which he willed to his daughters, located in Green County Ky. I have not investigated these deeds as yet.

His father was Nicholas Coger and he died before Michael was of age and one Adam Miller was appointed guardian for Michael in 1765. Michael was married in 1782 to Mary-----.

Yours truly,

Signed: G. B. Pope.

GEORGE H. CO. CIA

George (1) Cogger, b. 1755-40 in Germany; emigrated to Western Virginia.....married in Virginia, 1760-65, Hannah Elizabeth Haver (Hass) the daughter from Roger Dyer (Augusta county, Va., 1747) and wife Hannah Dyer. Their daughter, Sarah Dyer, married Henry Haver, and a daughter of Sarah Dyer and Henry Haver, Hannah Elizabeth Haver, married George (1) Cogger above. (Sarah Dyer Haver, at the time of the Fort Seibert Massacre, was carried away into captivity and for seven years remained with the Indians). George Cogger was a slave owner; lived near Fort Seibert, Pendleton county, West Virginia. He died 1788. In 1781, his widow, Hannah Cogger, married Jacob Trumbo. James Dyer was appointed guardian of Hannah, Henry and John, the orphans of George Cogger. (Will Book No. 1, Pendleton county, West Virginia).

- Children of George (1) and Hannah Elizabeth Haves-Cogger.
- Henry (1) Cogger, b. May 13, 1771.
 - Hannah () Cogger, b. about 1774.
 - John (1) Cogger, b. about 1776.

HENRY (2) CO CIA

Henry (2) Cogger, son of George (1) and Hannah Elizabeth Haves-Cogger, was born May 13, 1771; married April 12, 1801, Elizabeth Randall (Abel 1, Jacob 2) of Hardy Co., West Va. The minister was Rev. Ferdinand Linn. This family including the ten children remained in Pendleton county, West Virginia, around Fort Seibert.

- Children of Henry (2) and Elizabeth Randall-Cogger.
- Abel (3) Cogger, b. Oct. 31, 1800. He married March 31, 1833, Phoebe Dice. Rev. J. P. Dargy was the minister.
 - Jacob (3) Cogger, b. Feb. 1, 1800. Married Sallie Dice.
 - George (3) Cogger, b. Jan. 13, 1815. Married Elizabeth Judy.
 - Jesse (3) Cogger, b. June 13, 1816. Married Polly Ann Koister.
 - A daughter of this union, Susan Elizabeth Cogger, was b. Feb. 9, 1841. She married George S. Kope, whose mother, was Jennie Randall, a sister of Ruth and Elizabeth Randall. George E. and Jesse P. Kope are sons of this union.
 - Noah (3) Cogger, b. Oct. 17, 1810. Married Elizabeth Dice.
 - Job (3) Cogger, b. March 9, 1810. Married.....
 - Andrew (3) Cogger, b. Oct. 3, 1811. Turned to death.
 - Hannah (3) Cogger, b. Jan. 13, 1814. Married Emanuel Trumbo.
 - Amelia (3) Cogger, b. March 17, 1816. Spoke Judy.
 - Aenath (3) Cogger, b. Oct. 7, 1820. Married Noah Barnstall.

HANNAH (2) COWGER

Hannah (2) Cowger, b. about 1774 (daughter of George (1) and Hannah Elizabeth Taylor-Cowger); married Dec. 8, 1799 in Rockingham county, Virginia, Nicholas Shaver. Rev. Ferdinand Lair was the minister. They went to Ohio. No further record.

JOHN (2) COWGER

John (2) Cowger, b. March 27, 1798; d. Sept. 30, 1847; m. April 21, 1807, in Hardy county, Virginia, Ruth Randall (Abel 1, Jacob 2). Rev. Ferdinand Lair was the minister. With their children, they moved, 1834, to Monon, Indiana. He is buried, as well as other members of the family, in Chapel Cemetery, Monon, Indiana. John sold his land in Va., to his brother Henry.

Children of John (2) and Ruth Randall-Cowger.

Abel (3) Cowger, b.

John (3) Cowger, b.

Silas Randall (3) Cowger, b. Nov. 27, 1806 in Pendleton county, E. Virginia; died March 28, 1862 at Monon, Indiana. Married Aug. 21, 1834 Elizabeth Susan Tott in Pendleton county, E. Va. Came to Monon, Indiana in 1834. Children:

Eli Wesley (4) Cowger, b. Nov. 18, 1837.

Children were:

Thomas S. (5)

Charles (5)

Clara S. (5)

Fanny Jane (4) Cowger, b. Jan. 28, 1840.

George Washington (4) Cowger, b. Oct. 7, 1841.

Ruth Elizabeth (4) Cowger, b. Oct. 17, 1844.

Silas Randall (4) Cowger, b. March 1, 1847.

Glennice R. (5) Cowger, Monticello, Indiana attorney is a son.

Martha Catherine (4) Cowger, b. Jan. 1, 1848.

Louise Margaret (4) Cowger, b. Nov. 18, 1850.

John William (4) Cowger, b. Dec. 21, 1858.

Francis Leander (4) Cowger, b. Jan. 11, 1859.

Jacob (3) Cowger, b.....; d.....; m.....and had:

Josephine (4) Cowger, m.....McConnell.

Daughter, (4) Cowger.

Samuel (4) Cowger.

Eli (3) Cowger, b. 1811 in Pendleton Co., E. Va.

Moved to White county, near Monon, Indiana. Died about 1868. M (2).....Lawler; m. (2) Ann North-

ington. Children were:

John Richard (4) Cowger, b. 1833, White county, Indiana. Res. Monticello, Ind. Children were:

John Raymond (5) Cowger, Frederick, Okla.

Clifford (5) Cowger, dentist, Monticello,
Indiana.

T. Harle (3) Cowger, Res. R. R. Monticello,
Indiana.

Eli W. (4) Cowger.

William (4) Cowger.

Joseph (4) Cowger.

Margaret (4) Cowger.

Compiled by Glen E. France

Grandson of Mary Ellen Cowger.

Transcription from a
biographical history
of Fremont County,
Iowa. 1901.

A. F. Cowger, M. D.

In the subject of this review we have one who has attained distinction in the line of his profession and has been an earnest and discriminating student and holds a position of due relative precedence among the medical fraternity of Fremont County. He is the pioneer representative of his profession in Riverton, where he arrived on the 17th of September 1873. Since that time he has been actively engaged in the practice of medicine and now has a large patronage.

The Doctor was born on the 30th day of August 1843, in the year which occurred the birth of President McKinley. He is a son of Rev. James Cowger, who was born in Highland County, Ohio, a grandson of George Cowger and a great-grandson of Gustave Cowger, who was of Russian-German parentage, their ancestors having been active in the wars of Russia and Germany 180 years ago. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Susan Cowger, and was a native of Ohio. Her father, Adrian Cowger, was of Irish lineage. James Cowger and his wife Susan came to the territory of Iowa in 1845. At that time the exception of a few settlements along the Mississippi the state was almost entirely uninhabited. There was not a single railway line within its borders or west of the river, and the wonderful work of progress which has since transformed the country, and seems most phenomenal, was then a labor of the future. The father took up his abode in Van Buren County, Iowa near Keosauqua, and in addition to the development of his farm engaged in the preaching of the gospel in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church, riding the circuit in the wilds of the Hawkeye state. In 1849-1850 he accepted a church of this denomination in Glenwood, Mills county, this state. He was a very sincere and active worker in the cause of the ministry and did every thing in his power to secure the advancement of Christian principals among the people. He died at the age of 54 years, and his wife who survived him some time, passed away in Riverton, Iowa, at age of 69 having spent her last days there in the home of her son, the subject of this sketch. She was a good christian woman and greatly beloved for her tenderness of heart. Mr. Cowger had three children namely: E. L. who is living near Downs in Mitchell County, Kansas; W. A. of Riverton township, Fremont County, Iowa.

The Doctor was reared in Iowa, acquiring his education in the public schools of the state. On the 15th of July, 1862,

he offered his services to the government as a defender of the Union, enlisting in Company D, 18th. Iowa Infantry, with which he was connected until honorably discharged on the 6th day of July 1866. He served under General Blunt on the frontier of Missouri for nine months and in 1863 participated in the siege of Vicksburg, after which his regiment was attached to the Department of the Gulf and was stationed at Brownsville, Texas, for six months. Dr. Cowger was eventually commissioned second lieutenant of the 1st. United States Colored Infantry and served until November 1866 with credit and honor. During that time he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

On leaving the military service of his country, Dr. Cowger, returned to Abingdon, Jefferson County, Iowa, and began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. E. J. Mohr, a prominent and well known physician who had served as surgeon in the tenth Iowa Infantry. Dr. Cowger is also a graduate of the Keokuk Medical College, of Keokuk, Iowa, and of the Ensworth Medical College of Missouri. Well equipped for the practice of his chosen profession, he came to Eiverton, in 1872 and has since been classed among the leading practitioners in this part of the county. He has ever been a close student and is constantly adding to his professional knowledge by reading, study and careful thought.

On the 18th of August 1868 Dr. Cowger was united in marriage to Miss Susan Cline, who was born in Fayette, Ohio, a daughter of Jesse Cline, who resided in Abingdon, Iowa, at the age of 90 years. The Doctor has five children: F. J., who is a druggist by profession but is now living on a farm in Fremont County; Mrs. Mary E. Harsh of Eiverton; Anne L. who is engaged in clerking in the store owned by Kidd & Co.; Earnest E. who was born in 1870 and served in the 50th. Iowa infantry during the war with Spain and in the Philippines until honorably discharged; and Susie E. at home.

In his political views the Doctor is a stalwart Democrat and ranks as one of the leading members of the party in this section of the state. He has often delivered addresses to further the interest in the cause and is recognized as a good stump orator. He served as county coroner but has never sought or desired other official preferment. Socially he is connected with the L.O.O.F., the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodman of America, the G.A.R., and the Masonic Fraternity. The success which attends his efforts is but a natural consequence, for his position soon became assured because he was an able physician, a man of sterling integrity and one who devoted himself to his profession and to the interest and welfare of those to whom he ministered, as indeed he yet does. He is a physician of great fraternal delicacy, and no man ever observed more closely the ethics of the unwritten code or showed more

careful courtesy to his brother practitioners than does Dr. Coger.

This was sent to me by my cousin, Mrs. Corn Palley, of Sidney, Fremont County, Iowa. Some of the descendants of Dr. Coger are now living in Fremont County but they do not seem to know what relationship their line is to other lines of Cogers.

The 1940 census of Iush County, Indiana lists two Gustavus Coggers. One between the ages of 70-79 and the other between ages 44-49. There was five years difference in ages of the elder Gustavus and my great-grandfather, Michael. The younger Gustavus was son of Michael. I rather think Dr. Coger was a descendant of the elder Gustavus.

R. E. Coger,
R. F. 4, Box 11,
Terre Haute, Indiana,
October 30, 1959.

K. K. ., Box 52,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
February 25, 1940.

Oren E. Frazee,
406 S. 11th. St.,
La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Dear Cousin:

Your recent card and letter received and very glad to hear from you again. I fully intended to write you sooner but I don't seem to be able to keep up with my correspondence. I work every day including Sunday and have very little spare time.

Last October Thomas and Clara Gogger of Monticello, Ind. visited us and wife and I repaid their visit. We met quite a few of their relatives and found all mighty nice people.

Last September my son Charles and wife Stella and myself and wife visited my brother at Cannonsburg, Penn. Returning we stopped over at Hillsboro, Ohio, and at Rushville, Ind., and examined county records. We stayed too long at Penn. and had to make both places in one day. We arrived at Rushville at 5 p.m. and courthouse and library closed at 5:30. Charles and Stella went to library and I and wife to courthouse. We did not have time to check marriage index with certificates. Charles and Stella did not find much Gogger information, but did find some data on the Frazees and started to copy it but found it had been checked with pencil and decided some one had already copied it. Was greatly disappointed when found the early marriage records did not show ages nor names of parents. We spent couple hours with Fred Woods at Arlington but did not have time to call on the William Gogger who lives north of Arlington.

I hope I can arrange to make a special trip to Rushville and Hillsboro (not a Visit) the coming summer and make a more thorough search. Deeds, wills and settlement of estates should show information.

My cousin, Cora Bailly of Sidney, Iowa, sent me a copy of a letter written Sept. 14, 1928 written by George McGreery to her father, James McGreery Gogger, who was an elder brother of my father, in which an uncle David Gogger who remained in Rush County is mentioned. George McGreery was a son of James McGreery and Rachel Gogger and was 70 years old in 1928. Rachel was my grandfather's older sister. This would indicate my grandfather had an elder brother named David and if the James Gogger who died at Newton, Illinois, Jasper County, was

2.

Your grandfather's brother would prove the David of your line was a son of Michael, my great-grandfather. However, it is not much use to try figure it out until we get more information.

Will close for this time and will keep you advised of any new information I receive.

Be glad to hear from you any time.

Signed: H. B. Cooper

County records of
Highland County, Ohio
and
Hush County, Indiana.

Highland County, Ohio.

Gustavus Cowger married Harbary Swadley Feb. 1, 1810. W.
Lucas J.P.

"I believe this Gustavus was my grandfather's brother. It is known he had an older brother by this name. The 1740 Hush County Indiana census lists two Gustavus Cowgers in Lushville Twp, one between ages 70-80 and the other between 80-90. There was five years difference in ages of my great-grandfather, Michael, and the elder Gustavus.-----Gustavus and Barbara (Swadley) had a daughter, Nancy Ann, who was born in 1831. A son Henry Strange Cowger was the youngest son but I do not have date of his birth. The elder Gustavus was 67 in 1838.

John Cowger married Elenor Lindsey Feb. 13, 1821.

It is known my grandfather had a brother John who lived at one time near Bridgeport in Marion County, Indiana, but I have not been able to find further trace of him or his family.

James McGrary married Rachel Cowger Dec. 27, 1818.

This Rachel must have been my grandfather's sister. One of his sons was named James McGrary (or McGray) Cowger after his uncle James McGrary.

George Bennett married Phoebe Cowger Oct. 15, 1814.

This Phoebe may have been another sister of my grandfather. When I was a child a Bob Bennett family lived in the vicinity of Rose Hill, Jasper County, Illinois who were related to us. I do not know what became of the family.

James Shivers married Polla Cowger Feb. 13, 1815.

My father's middle name was Shivers and he was named after his Aunt Mary's husband. Polla & Mary must be the same person.

Richard Taylor deeded 160 acres to Michael Cowger Jan. 10, 1820.

My great-grandfather.

John Graham deeded 115 acres to Andrew Cowger Mar. 10, 1819.

I do not know who this Andrew was.

John Carnes deeded 30 acres to Gustavus Cowger Mar. 11, 1815.

I do not know which Gustavus this was.

Michael Cowger deeded 37 acres to John Boyd Sept. 9, 1814.

It is known Michael settled in Rush County, Indiana about 1814.

Rush County, Indiana records.

David Cowger & Susan Sutton. Linc. issued Dec. 7, 1845. M.
Dec. 8, 1845.

Your Linc. (Owen E. Frazier)

David Cowger & Mary Stapleton. Linc. Apl. 11, 1846. M.
Apl. 16, 1846.

I am now corresponding with Arville J. Cowger, 3438
Salem St., Indianapolis, Ind., whose father's name was
Loses T. Cowger. Lose's mother died when he was one
year old and his father left when he was three years
old to go to the gold fields and was never heard from.
Loses was raised by his mother's parents, Mr. & Mrs.
John Stapleton. Have not yet learned Lose's father's
name. My father told me about the Stapletons and about
the Cowger who left for the gold fields and was never
heard from but I do not remember names nor relationship.
My recollection is that he was grandfather's brother.

Another David Cowger was born in Rush County March 11,
1813. He was a son of Gustavus and Parbra (Bradley).
The information I have is that he married Mary PL MS
in Rush County in 1848. David with several brothers
and sisters left Rush County in 1848, after the death
of their parents, and settled in Iowa.

Gustavus Cowger & Margaret Caldwell. Linc. Dec. 18, 1840.
M. Dec. 19, 1840.

I have information of three Gustavus Cowgers:

- 1-The elder Gustavus.
- 2-My grandfather's brother.

2.

3-A Gus Corgor who settled in Doniphan Co, Kansas about 1887.

Do not know which this was.

Gustavus Corgor & Susannah Corgor. Lisc. May 25, 1842. M. May 26, 1842.

This must be where the split relationship is Mr. Woods speaks of. I do not know which Gustavus this was nor the Susannah Corgor was as I did not have time to check marriage index with the marriage certificate.-----I understand the David of your line died when 34 years old. Could it be possible the above Susannah was David's wife Susan (Satter)?

Isiah
~~Isiah~~ Corgor & Mary G. Hedden. Lisc. Oct. 2, 1847. M. Oct. 26, 1847.

Isiah
~~Isiah~~ Corgor & Maldivette Pope. Lisc. Sept. 10, 1847. M. 9-12-1 47.

Isiah
~~Isiah~~ Corgor & Rebecca E. Farvick. Lisc. June 11, 1851. M. 6-17-1851.

Isiah
This ~~Isiah~~ was your grandmother's brother. (*Oren E. Frazer*)

Jonathan Corgor & Sarah Birt. Lisc. Dec. 29, 1850. M. Dec. 30, 1850.

This was my grandfather.

Jonathan Corgor and Sarah Downey. Lisc. Mar. 13, 1853. M. Mar. 17, 1853.

This was the oldest child of Gustavus & Barbara (Braley). *See p. 5*

John Corgor & Elizabeth A. Caldwell. Lisc. July 7, 1857. No returns.

I have no information of this John.

John C. Corgor & Levina Birt. Lisc. Sept. 16, 1840. M. 9-17-1840.

A John C. Corgor & family lived in the Sreet Run neighborhood near Rose Hill, Jasper County, Ill. They moved to Missouri. I have no further trace of them.

James Corgor & Susan Garver. Lisc. Oct. 1, 1841. M. 10-2-1842.

This James was son of George and grandson of Gustavus who must have been the elder Gustavus. James was a minister and moved to Iowa soon after his marriage.

James Covyer & Jane Birt. Licc. Aug. 17, 1849. W.
Aug. 11, 1839.

Two grandsons of this James, William & Elmer, now
live north of Arlington. He may have been my grand-
father's brother.

James Covyer & Charlotte A. Helton. Licc. Aug. 27, 1851.
W. same date.

This family lived near Norton, Jasper County, Ill.
where they both died leaving several children. One
of the daughters, Elizabeth, was raised by my grand-
parents. James's parents were David & Susannah.
I understand your grandmother had a brother James.
Could this have been he???

The early Highland County, Ohio marriage records
do not show ages nor names of parents until the
year 1850. At Rushville I did not have time to
check certificates but they told me the same thing.
I did not ask what year this information was added.

R. E. Covyer,
R. R. 4, Bx. 25,
Terre Haute, Ind.,
Feb. 12, 1940.

